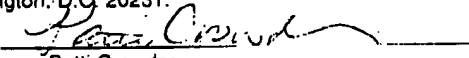


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To <u>Examiner Gilman</u>	From <u>A. Guez</u>		
Co./Dept. <u>USPTO</u>	Co. <u>BSTZ</u>		
Phone # <u>301 09/547561</u>	Phone # <u>310 267 3520/284</u>		
Fax # <u>703 305 0847</u>	Fax #		

**PATENT**  
cket No.: P98-US

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL" 37 C.F.R. §1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on February 28, 2002 in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

  
Patti Crowder

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the application of:

Application No.: 09/547,561

Filing Date: April 12, 2000

For: SHAPED SPRINGS

Examiner: A. Gilman

Group Art Unit: 2833

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on an attached Form PTO/SB/08A is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication, U.S. and foreign patent document, and pending U.S. application (including drawings and claims), is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. The Examiner is requested to initial and return the attached Form PTO/SB/08A in accordance with MPEP §609.

This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No.: P98-US

☐ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

- ☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date (other than the filing date of a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d))  
-- OR --
- ☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage  
-- OR --
- ☐ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits  
-- OR --
- ☐ (4) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the latest of: (1) three months beyond the filing date of a national application; (2) three months beyond the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; (3) the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, or (4) the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:

☐ a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **or**

☐ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the issue fee, then:

A. a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **and**

B. a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

**PATENT**

Attorney Docket No.: P98-US



*Fee Authorization.* Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge the above fee of \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-0285 (Order No. P98-US). Although Applicants believe that no additional fee is due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees due, or credit any overpayment associated, with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0285 (Order No. P98-US)

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 28, 2002By: 

N. Kenneth Burraston  
Reg. No. 39,923

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Livermore, CA 94550  
Telephone: (925) 294-4300

**PATENT**

Attorney Docket No.: P98-US

**STATEMENT***(Attachment to Information Disclosure Statement)*

- ☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1). APPLICANT'S UNDERSIGNED ATTORNEY HEREBY STATES THAT each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement; or
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2). APPLICANT'S UNDERSIGNED ATTORNEY HEREBY STATES THAT no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 28, 2002By: N. Kenneth Burraston  
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Telephone: (925) 294-4300



## IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/547,561Attorney Docket No.: P98-USInventor: Gaetan L. Mathieu et al.Date Due: February 28, 2002Title: SHAPED SPRINGS

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the following:

Cited References

- ☐ Patent Application (No. pgs \_\_\_\_ )  
☒ Information Disclosure Statement w/PTO 1449  
☐ Drawings \_\_\_\_ Sheets  
☐ Declaration and Power of Attorney  
☐ Assignment w/Cover Sheet  
☐ Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$  
☐ Revocation/Power of Attorney & Change of Corres. Address  
☐ Certification under 3.73  
☐ \_\_\_\_\_ Transmittal

- ☐ Petition for Extension of Time  
☐ Resp. to Notice to File Missing Parts  
☐ Response/Amendment  
☐ Issue Fee Transmittal  
☐ Submission of Formal Drawings  
☐ Notice of Appeal  
☐ Appeal Brief  
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Date Mailed: February 28, 2002